IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 32, 36 and 41, and add Claims 43 to 50 as follows.

The claims as pending in the subject application read as follows:

1. to 31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing system in a factory, comprising:

industrial equipment installed in the factory for manufacturing products;

a host computer <u>connected to an internet</u>; and

a LAN system connecting to the industrial equipment and the host computer, wherein the host computer is connected to ~~the Internet to allow access to~~ a remote computer placed at a remote location from the factory through the ~~Internet~~ <u>internet</u>, the remote computer providing at least one [[of a]] database storing maintenance information concerning the industrial equipment, ~~and a software library for the industrial equipment~~ <u>wherein the maintenance information includes both status information received from the host computer concerning the industrial equipment and response information which is used for handling a problem indicated by the status information</u>.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 32, wherein the database stores information for identifying industrial equipment, trouble states that may

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occur in the identified industrial equipment, and corresponding countermeasures against the registered trouble states.

34.   (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 32, wherein the industrial equipment comprises different types of semiconductor apparatuses.

35.   (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 32, wherein the industrial equipment comprises the same types of semiconductor apparatuses.

36.   (Currently Amended) A manufacturing system, comprising:

a computer which is connected to ~~the Internet~~ an internet and provides a database storing information concerning industrial equipment;

a first manufacturing factory having the industrial equipment and a first LAN system capable of accessing the database through the ~~Internet~~ internet; and

a second manufacturing factory, located at a remote location from said first manufacturing factory, having the industrial equipment and a second LAN system capable of accessing the database through the ~~Internet~~ internet, wherein the database provided by the computer stores maintenance information concerning the industrial equipment, and wherein the maintenance information includes both status information received from the first and second LAN systems concerning the industrial equipment and response information which is used for handling a problem indicated by the status information.

37.   (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 36, wherein the database stores information for identifying an industrial equipment, trouble states that may occur in the identified industrial equipment, and corresponding countermeasures against the registered trouble states.

38.   (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 36, wherein said computer automatically notifies an appropriate personnel of trouble with the industrial equipment.

39.   (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 38, wherein said computer automatically sends an e-mail to the appropriate personnel.

40.   (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 36, wherein the industrial equipment comprises a semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and the information comprises trouble information of the semiconductor apparatus.

41.   (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 36, wherein said first and second manufacturing ~~factors~~ factories belong to a single user.

42.   (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 36, wherein said first and second manufacturing factories belong to different users from each other.

43.   (New) The system according to Claim 32, wherein the remote

computer comprises a communication security system which inhibits unauthorized entities

from accessing the database.

44.   (New) The system according to Claim 43, wherein the

communication security system inhibits unauthorized entities from accessing the remote

computer

45.   (New) The system according to Claim 36, wherein the remote

computer comprises a communication security system which inhibits unauthorized entities

from accessing the database.

46.   (New) The system according to Claim 45, wherein the

communication security system inhibits unauthorized entities from accessing the remote

computer.

47.   (New) A manufacturing system in a factory, comprising:

industrial equipment installed in the factory for manufacturing

products;

a host computer connected to an internet; and

a LAN system connecting to the industrial equipment and said host

computer,

wherein the host computer is connected to a remote computer placed at a remote location from the factory through the internet,

and wherein the remote computer provides at least one database storing maintenance information concerning the industrial equipment and comprises a communication security system which inhibits unauthorized entities from accessing the database.

48.   (New) The system according to Claim 47, wherein the communication security system inhibits unauthorized entities from accessing the remote computer.

49.   (New) A manufacturing system, comprising:

a computer which is connected to an internet and provides a database storing information concerning industrial equipment;

a first manufacturing factory having the industrial equipment and a first LAN system capable of accessing the database through the internet; and

a second manufacturing factory, located at a remote location from said first manufacturing factory, having the industrial equipment and a second LAN system capable of accessing the database through the internet,

wherein the computer provides at least one database storing maintenance information concerning the industrial equipment and comprises a communication security system which inhibits unauthorized entities from accessing the

database.

50.   (New) The system according to Claim 49, wherein the
communication security system inhibits unauthorized entities from accessing the remote
computer.